

T8465082US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application:

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| Applicant: | Towe et al |
| Serial No.: | 10/024,255 |
| Filing Date: | 12/21/2001 |
| Title: | NOVEL HETEROGENEOUS ION EXCHANGE MEMBRANE AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THEREOF |
| Examiner: | F. Teskin |
| Art Unit: | 1713 |
| Confirmation No. | 3346 |

February 24, 2005

Commissioner of Patent & Trademarks
Crystal Plaza 2, Lobby Level
2011 Jefferson Davis Highway
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on August 24, 2004, a response to which was originally due on November 24, 2004, and a request for extension of such deadline to February 24, 2005 is being made by the petition for extension of time accompanying this communication.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6 and 10-14 are pending. Claims 2-6 and 10-12 have been withdrawn from consideration.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC§ 103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 13 and 14 under 35 USC§ 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,338,784 ("Terada") in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,665,059 ("Mahlman") and the evidence provided by Schwartz et al. Plastics Materials and Processes ("Schwartz").